submitted cadre review proposals in respect of MES ministerial staff to his Ministry for their consideration; and

(b) If so, what action has been taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) Cadre Review proposals in respect of ministerial staff submitted to the Ministry of Defence, are under examination.

Produetion Aircrft Carries by Cochin Shipyard

£££3850. SHRIMATI BASANTI SHARMA
SHRI KAPIL VERMA ;
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Wilt the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether it is a fact that a high powered expert comittee, after inspecting the facilities and infrastruture available at Cochin Shipyard, infrastructure available at Cochine shipyard has confirmed that it was capable of strengthning the country's coastal defence ; and

(b) If so, whether Government are considering a proposal to entrust the shipyard with building of aircraft carries for the Navy ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) DCN (DIRECTION DES CONSTRUCTIONS NAVALE) of France have carried out an audit of the Cochin Shipyard Linited for assessing the feasibility of the Shipyard being used for the purpose of constructioing on aircraft carrier. No decision has been taken to construct a new aircraft carrier for the Navy.

Use of Aircraft for Ministers/Officers

3851. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA Will the minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state ;

(a) Whether Government possess any aircraft for the exclusive use of Ministers and officers ; if so, the number thereof ;

(b) The average time these aircraft fly per day and the expanditure incurred per month on these aircraft;

(c) Whether Government prosose to reduce the use of such aircraft; and

(d) If not, the reasonds therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No aircraft has been earmarked for the exclusive use of Miniters and Officers. The Air Headquaters Communication Squadron, which has 15 aircraft, provides air lift to authorised categories of VVIPs, VIPs and others.

(b) During 1991, the average hours flown per aircraft per day was 45 minutes approximataly. Aircraft-wise monthly expenditure is not maintained.

(c) and (d) The use of IAF aircraft restricted and regularly menitored.

Defence Lands/Premises Laying Vacant in Delhi Cantonment

3852. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA :
SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH ;

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) What are the details of land and premises lying vacant under the administrative control of Defence Estate Office in Delhi Cantonment as per the office records ;

(b) What are the norms and criteria laid down by the Director General of Defence Estates for leasing of such vacant lands and premises in Delhi Cantonment where such lands are not required for Defence and other public purposes ; and

(c) What are the names of the authorities empoweted by the Dirctor General for leasing such vacant land and premises in Delhi Cantonment ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) to (c) As per records of the Defence Estates Estates Officers Delhi Cantonment are under the management of Defence Estate Officer, Building sites are not controlled by the Defence Estate Officer.

2. Under the current policy, lands which are temporarily surplus to Defence requirment can be leased out by Defence Estate Officer to Ex-Servicemen for agricultural purpose subject to the following conditions :

(i) The lease period is normally for five years at a time.

£££ Previously Unstarred question 3244, Transferred from the 18th March, 1992.